SECRET

The Files

9 May 1957

[redacted] 25X1

25X1

Trip Report - [redacted]

1. At 1300 CDT on 29 April 1957, a project progress inspection was made at the main plant of [redacted] 25X1
The inspection concerned progress on tasks under RD-76 and involved the following persons: 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

2. This visit was made, primarily, to propose an acceleration of the TIME EVENT MARKER program as requestedin a memo from OC-SPD to OC-E dated 22 April 1957. This memorandum authorized the temporary suspension of parallel development on the signal actuated device and then those efforts be concentrated on TEM; the authorization to use overtime in the development of TEM; and the authorization of increased cost in the use of additional personnel and plant facilities on this task. [redacted] accepted our proposal quite 25X1
readily and are most willing to arrange a delivery of items under Phase 1 of the TEM task on or before 31 December 1957. At present [redacted] does not have a 25X1
firm procedure for handling engineering overtime. Within the next few weeks they will establish a policy, however, and let us know their estimate of the accelerated requirements. [redacted] expressed his opinion, though, 25X1
that he anticipated little or no increase in cost to speed up TEM. In view of this, he suggested that the present cost proposal for TEM remain monetarily the same and that the new Phase 1 completion date and the authorization for overtime be written into the proposal by us. Such action will eliminate the necessity for the re-submission of a new proposal. If then, in the further development of this phase, additional funding appears to be necessary, [redacted] will ask for money under increased 25X1

SECRET

cost. We found this agreeable and we will take action to modify the present proposal in hand. [redacted] also said that work on SAD will not necessarily need to come to a complete stop because development on TEM involves mechanisms to be used in SAD. 25X1

3. Progress on SAD and TEM appears to be satisfactory. Work on the design of prototype models is currently underway. The progress on the 60 DAY PROGRAM TIMER is satisfactory and a prototype model was delivered to us this trip. Inasmuch as the previous model was returned to [redacted] for repairs, the model just delivered is the only unit now in our possession. We also have a test unit for the 60 day programmer. Since prototype approval has been granted on the programmer, this model has been turned over to SP for their further evaluation and use. A prototype model of the 84 HOUR TIMER has been completed. We observed tests on this unit at [redacted] and the unit appears to be satisfactory. This timer is designed to activate devices for a 5 hour period after a pre-set interval of zero to 84 hours has elapsed. This prototype model was also delivered to us for our approval. We suggested that the engraving on the face-plate of this timer, "Interval Timer" and "Manufactured by [redacted]" be omitted from successive models. 25X1 25X1 25X1

4. Additional items of interest regarding the various projects are as follows:

a. [redacted] engineers suggest the use of wet cells in making the contact test for the 60 Day Programmer. 25X1

b. They are also providing extra sets of gears for the Programmer Tester to allow testing of the unit in an even shorter period of time.

c. A sample of silicone instrument oil was given us representing the type of lubricant they are using in many of their low temperature applications.

d. [redacted] has a Time Event Marking device now in operation which marks the time of event on paper tape. This device was demonstrated as used in certain other applications. 25X1

e. A miniaturized synchronous motor operating at 400 cycles AC was demonstrated as a possible motive source for the data recorder.

f. Regarding the TEM mechanism, [redacted] suggested that time not be visably readable from the unit but that the readout unit (part of the TEM task) be relied upon as the sole method of time determination. Although visible time determination directly from TEM is not a requirement, it was pointed out that the inclusion of such would necessarily increase the size considerably. It was further suggested that TEM read out elapsed minutes in decimal form and that the unit not be re-settable to zero time since the unit recycles to zero after 100,000 minutes have elapsed, and indicated time and actual time may be recorded at the beginning of any operation. Such a design will eliminate more unnecessary knobs on the outside of the unit. Design goals of SAD and TEM are such that they will fit in packages of the cross-sectional size of the 60 Day Programmer. 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

OC-E/R&D-EP/DLW:cmf (9 May 1957)
cc: ✓R&D Subject File
Monthly Report (2)
SP/EA
R&D Chrono
EP Chrono